

Message

From: Wilson, Patrick [Wilson.Patrick@epa.gov]
Sent: 4/14/2015 4:50:20 PM
To: Herrera, Angeles [Herrera.Angeles@epa.gov]; Armann, Steve [Armann.Steve@epa.gov]; Grange, Gabrielle Fenix [fenix.grange@doh.hawaii.gov]
CC: TenBrook, Patti [TenBrook.Patti@epa.gov]; Cooper, Pam [Cooper.Pam@epa.gov]; roger.brewer@doh.hawaii.gov
Subject: FW: Hickam Pesticides
Attachments: IMG_4197.JPG; IMG_4201.JPG; IMG_4214.JPG; max3.jpg

FYI –

I have not replied to this individual.

From: Nicole [REDACTED] **Personal Matters / Ex. 6**
Sent: Saturday, April 11, 2015 6:10 AM
To: Wilson, Patrick
Cc: [REDACTED] **Personal Matters / Ex. 6**
Subject: Hickam Pesticides

Mr. Wilson,

My name is Nicole [REDACTED] first I would like to apologize for taking so long to get this email to you we have been in the middle of relocating our family off the Island of Oahu due to the pesticide exposure we experienced from living on Hickam.

I was given your name and email and asked to email you and tell you our story about our experience while living on Hickam AFB. We moved to Hickam in January of 2012 we took a recently renovated historic home. Shortly after moving in they found that the sewer lines needed repaired and we were told they would need to dig up the yard to do the work. they dug a 3 foot trench around our building which including repairing the sewer lines for 5 town homes. They had to remove parts of concrete to get to the connections into the home. I will attach a photo to give you an idea of how the soil was placed in our yard. The work lasted a few days, the soil was shoved back in the hole and we were left with a yard of dirt. Unfortunately this dirt remained for several months even after several failed attempts to grow grass and making many complaints to housing about the mud being tracked into the house and we could not understand why we just couldn't get grass to grow. They came back and did several other things in the yard that ended up disturbing the soil. The essentially took our yard and turned it upside down. Later we found out we had a one foot clean soil cap. In the photo you can see the orange textile that is a marker between the clean soil and pesticide impacted soil. So that when work is done in areas with known PI soil they would see the bright orange textile and stop and follow certain procedures to "quarantine" the soil.

Which leads me to how we found out about the soil containing pesticides. Our dog ended up getting sick he had developed sores over 90% of his body they looked like chemical burns. We took him to the vet they asked us if we knew about the pesticides in our area around our home and said they have seen rashes like this before from exposure to them. They see several dogs on base with rashes like this, his was one of the worst they had seen. Of course we were told nothing about the pesticides when we moved in, or during the excavating of our yard. I had also at the time had began having issues with my legs and was referred to a neurologist.

Once I learned of the pesticides I began doing research and was completely shocked when I learned about the 6 year exposure rate, the kinds of banned chemicals around my home and other homes on

base, the fact that at the end of my street there was a massive pile of soil just sitting behind a fence un-covered and I couldn't help but wonder if this soil was supposed to be "quarantined"...

I took this information to my neurologist and he was shocked! Because at the time my symptoms were getting worse and new things were going wrong and we were running multiple tests to try to figure out WHAT was going on with my body. And there was the answer. The pesticide exposure.

During my research I ran across a toxicologist on the mainland that performed air sampling and specialized in these pesticides. So we performed an air sample and our home came back positive for Chlordane and Heptachlor.

We eventually contacted the HDOH for help with this. I cannot possibly express how disappointed I am with the state of Hawaii in the way they are handling this whole situation with the base. The most we got out of them was the large pile of soil that I was concerned was PI soil sitting in the open air was covered within 24 hours and marked PI soil. And we were able to get the soil sample results from our yard. We were told our air sample was a waste of time. Once we showed the state toxicologist the results she stated to simply open the windows to ventilate the home more. She actually told me I would have to be eating handfuls of the soil to get sick! Even after speaking with my neurologist she was still trying to say there was no way this was causing my health concerns when I have the text book issues from chronic pesticide exposure. I have also spoken with other state's toxicologist, bio-environmentalists and I know she is wrong. I am not sure why she is allowed to continue to try to tell families that this could not make them sick. Especially when you know have a cluster of people experiencing the same symptoms!

After many meetings with Hickam Communities letters from my doctor and many tears we were able to get our soil sampled again to check the levels since the construction they had done in our yard was CLEARLY done incorrectly. So in comparing the 2 sample results from before construction and after it is there in black and white how they mishandled the soil and contaminated our yard causing myself, my family, and my pets to be exposed to these chemicals. In August of this year we lost our dog very unexpectedly, during the necropsy they found he had 100's of tumors throughout his body from his pesticide exposure. One of his tumors had ruptured and he bled internally which caused his death.

The Air Force decided to relocate us due to my medical conditions I developed from living there. My doc requested me to be moved into a home with NO pesticides and Hickam Communities said they could not fulfill that. So the military moved us under the exceptional family member program. I have permanent damage due to my exposure. A day doesn't go by where this doesn't effect my life. I can't possibly express enough how much somebody needs to step in and force the clean up to be done on that base. My health and my dogs life shouldn't have had to be sacrificed due to lack of oversight from the agencies that should be babysitting the areas that are known to have these contamination problems. The HDOH signed up to handle the oversight of the soil on this base and have admitted several times that they do not have the manning to do it properly. How many families are going to get sick? How many animals are going to die because they are the ones MOST directly exposed to these chemicals in the soil in the yard? Think for a minute about how many moms are putting babies in their yards to sit in the grass, or letting them walk around barefoot to let them feel the grass on their feet for the first time? Imagine the heart ache and worry they will feel when they find out that the first time they are letting their babies feel grass on their little feet they are allowing their baby to absorb carcinogens. Or the handful of dirt their toddler just shoved in their mouth that they brushed off as a kid being a kid was full of pesticides, heavy metals and asbestos. Why are we the canaries in the coal mine for this 6 year exposure rate experiment? Doesn't the EPA have guidelines for a reason? How is it they can just change them suit their needs? Isn't that what the EPA is for? To protect us from exposure to these harmful

banned carcinogens? If the EPA bans a chemical or a pesticide and bases an exposure rate on a time frame how can a state change it to suit their needs to save a company millions of dollars? Then the company that came up with this 6 year exposure rate can use this as a brag page on their companies web sight. What happened to morals....

Your attention to this matter would be greatly appreciated.

Nicole Personal Matters / Ex. 6

PS- I have attached pics of the yard and a pic of our dogs rash.

This is actually the shorter version of our story so if you need more info please feel free to let me know. I will provide what ever is needed with approval from my attorneys to get as much attention to this situation as possible.